

CLAIMS

[1] A light-collecting device which collects incident light, comprising:

a substrate into which the incident light is incident; and

5 above said substrate, a plurality of light-transmitting films formed in a region into which the incident light is incident,

wherein said light-transmitting film forms a zone in which a width of each zone is equal to or shorter than a wavelength of the incident light, and

10 the plurality of said light-transmitting films form an effective refractive index distribution.

[2] The light-collecting device according to Claim 1,

15 wherein in the plurality of said light-transmitting films, each light-transmitting film has a constant line width.

[3] The light-collecting device according to one of Claim 1 and Claim 2,

20 wherein in one of areas of said light-transmitting films divided by a length equal to or shorter than the wavelength of the incident light, a sum of the line widths of the light-transmitting films is smaller than a sum of the line widths in another one of the areas that is closer to a zone center.

25 [4] The light-collecting device according to Claim 3, wherein the zone model is concentric circles.

[5] The light-collecting device according to Claim 3 wherein

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$$\Delta n(r) = \Delta n_{\max} \left[1 + m - n_1 r^2 / (2\lambda f) \right]$$

is approximately satisfied, where λ is the wavelength of the incident light, f is a focal length, n_0 is a refractive index of a

medium on a light incoming side, n_1 is a refractive index of a medium on a light outgoing side, m is a non-negative integer, and a maximum value of a refractive index of said light-transmitting film is $n_0 + \Delta n_{\max}$, when a difference from the n_0 is $\Delta n(r)$.

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[6] The light-collecting device according to Claim 3,
wherein

$$W = a(1 + m - n_1 r^2 / (2rf))$$

is satisfied, where λ is the wavelength of the incident light, f is a
10 focal length, a is a width of the divided area, n_1 is a refractive
index of a medium on a light outgoing side, m is a non-negative
integer, and r_m is a Fresnel zone boundary, that is a natural number
which satisfies $r_m^2 = 2m\lambda f / n_1$, taking that a sum W of the line widths
of said light-transmitting films in one of the divided areas having an
15 inner radius r where r is larger than r_m and smaller than r_{m+1} .

[7] The light-collecting device according to Claim 1,
wherein heights of said light-transmitting films are constant
in a direction normal to said light-transmitting films.

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[8] The light-collecting device according to Claim 1,
wherein a shape of cross sections of said light-transmitting
films in a direction normal to said light-transmitting films is
rectangular.

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[9] The light-collecting device according to Claim 1,
wherein each of said light-transmitting films includes one of
 TiO_2 , ZrO_2 , Nb_2O_5 , Ta_2O_5 , Si_3N_4 and Si_2N_3 .

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[10] The light-collecting device according to Claim 1,
wherein each of said light-transmitting films includes one of
 SiO_2 doped with B or P, that is Boro-Phospho Silicated Glass, and

Tetraethoxy Silane.

[11] The light-collecting device according to Claim 1,
wherein each of said light-transmitting films includes one of
5 benzocyclobutene, polymethacrylate, polyamide and
polyimide.

[12] A solid-state imaging apparatus comprising unit pixels that
are arranged in a two-dimensional array, each unit pixel including a
10 respective light-collecting device,

wherein said light-collecting devices comprises:

a substrate into which the incident light is incident; and

above said substrate, a plurality of light-transmitting films
formed in a region into which the incident light is incident,

15 wherein said light-transmitting film forms a zone in which
each zone is equal to or shorter than a wavelength of the incident
light, and

the plurality of said light-transmitting films form an effective
refractive index distribution.

20 [13] The solid-state imaging apparatus according to Claim 12,
wherein line widths of said light-transmitting films are
different between said light-collecting devices of said unit pixels
located close to a zone center and said light-collecting devices of
25 said unit pixels located near the zone periphery.

[14] The solid-state imaging apparatus according to Claim 12,
comprising at least:

a first unit pixel for first color light out of the incident light;
30 and

a second unit pixel for second color light which has a typical
wavelength that is different from a typical wavelength of the first

color light;

wherein said first unit pixel includes a first light-collecting device, and

5 said second unit pixel includes a second light-collecting device in which a focal length of the second color light is equal to a focal length of the first color light in said first light-collecting device.

[15] The solid-state imaging apparatus according to Claim 12,
10 wherein sums of the line widths of said light-transmitting films in each of the divided areas are different between a light-collecting device of said unit pixel located in a center of a plane on which said unit pixel is formed and a light-collecting device of said unit pixel located in the periphery of the plane.

15 [16] The solid-state imaging apparatus according to Claim 12,
wherein a plane on which said pixels are formed is divided by concentric areas from a center of the plane to the periphery,
focal lengths of said light-collecting devices of said unit pixels belonging to a same area are equal, and
20 focal lengths of said light-collecting devices of said unit pixels belonging to areas other than the same area are different.

[17] The solid-state imaging apparatus according to Claim 12,
wherein each unit pixel further includes:
25 a wiring layer having an aperture above a light-receiving device, on a light-outgoing side plane of said light-collecting device, and
a focal point of light collected by said light-collecting device matches a position of the aperture of said wiring layer.

30 [18] The solid-state imaging apparatus according to Claim 17,
wherein in said unit pixels located in a center of a plane on

which said unit pixels are formed, a central axis of each of said light-receiving devices is placed to match a central axis of each of said light-collecting devices, and

- 5 in said unit pixels located in the periphery of the center of the plane, a central axis of each of said light-receiving devices and a central axis of each of said light-collecting devices are placed toward the center of the plane.